IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1.

Please add new claims 10-41 as follows:

10. (New) A rack mount assembly for a rack system including opposing column flanges having flange apertures formed therein, the rack mount assembly comprising:

a rack mount having a first end and a second end;

a first mounting flange adjacent the first end of the rack mount, the first mounting flange having a first alignment protrusion formed thereon; and

a second mounting flange adjacent the second end of the rack mount, the second mounting flange having a second alignment protrusion formed thereon,

wherein the first and second mounting flanges are adapted to contact the opposing column flanges when the rack mount is in a first position between the opposing column flanges,

wherein the first and second alignment protrusions are adapted to contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges when the rack mount is in a second position between the opposing column flanges, and

wherein the first and second alignment protrusions are adapted to engage the flange apertures when the rack mount is in a third position between the opposing column flanges.

11. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions are adapted to contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges along a surface of a respective one of the opposing column flanges.

12. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions are adapted to contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges in a direction substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the opposing column flanges.

13. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions are adapted to support the rack mount between the opposing column flanges.

14. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, the opposing column flanges having additional flange apertures formed therein, wherein the first and second mounting flanges each have at least one mounting aperture formed therein, and wherein the at least one mounting aperture of each of the first and second mounting flanges is adapted to be aligned with one of the additional flange apertures when the first and second alignment protrusions engage the flange apertures.

15. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein a length of the rack mount between the first and second ends is adjustable.

16. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second mounting flanges are substantially orthogonal to a longitudinal axis of the rack mount, and wherein the alignment protrusions of the first and second mounting flanges extend toward each other.

17. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second mounting flanges are substantially orthogonal to a longitudinal axis of the rack mount, and wherein the alignment protrusions of the first and second mounting flanges extend away from each other.

18. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the rack mount is adapted to support an enclosure.

19. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the rack mount includes a first mounting bracket including the first mounting flange and a second mounting bracket including the second mounting flange.

20. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the rack mount includes an outer channel and an inner channel slidably supported by the outer channel, wherein the inner channel is adapted to support rack mount equipment.

21. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the rack mount includes a rack rail, wherein the rack rail is adapted to support rack mount equipment.

22. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions include truncated cones.

23. (New) The rack mount assembly of claim 10, wherein the second position of the rack mount extends between the first position of the rack mount and the third position of the rack mount.

24. (New) A rack system, comprising:

opposing column flanges each having flange apertures formed therein; and

a rack mount including a first mounting flange at a first end thereof and a second mounting flange at a second end thereof, the first mounting flange having a first alignment protrusion formed thereon and the second mounting flange having a second alignment protrusion formed thereon,

wherein the first and second mounting flanges contact the opposing column flanges when the rack mount is in a first position between the opposing column flanges,

wherein the first and second alignment protrusions contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges when the rack mount is in a second position between the opposing column flanges, and

wherein the first and second alignment protrusions engage the flange apertures when the rack mount is in a third position between the opposing column flanges.

25. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges along a surface of a respective one of the opposing column flanges.

26. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions contact and slide relative to the opposing column flanges in a direction substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the opposing column flanges.

27. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions support the rack mount between the opposing column flanges.

28. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the opposing column flanges each have additional flange apertures formed therein, wherein the first and second mounting flanges each have at least one mounting aperture formed therein, and wherein the at least one mounting aperture of each of the first and second mounting flanges is aligned with one of the additional flange apertures when the first and second alignment protrusions engage the flange apertures.

29. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein a length of the rack mount between the first and second ends is adjustable.

30. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second mounting flanges are substantially orthogonal to a longitudinal axis of the rack mount, and wherein the alignment protrusions of the first and second mounting flanges extend toward each other.

31. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second mounting flanges are substantially orthogonal to a longitudinal axis of the rack mount, and wherein the alignment protrusions of the first and second mounting flanges extend away from each other.

32. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the rack mount is adapted to support an enclosure.

33. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the rack mount includes a first mounting bracket including the first mounting flange and a second mounting bracket including the second mounting flange.

34. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the rack mount includes an outer channel and an inner channel slidably supported by the outer channel, wherein the inner channel is adapted to support rack mount equipment.

35. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the rack mount includes a rack rail, wherein the rack rail is adapted to support rack mount equipment.

36. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the first and second alignment protrusions include truncated cones.

37. (New) The rack system of claim 24, wherein the second position of the rack mount extends between the first position of the rack mount and the third position of the rack mount.

38. (New) A method of mounting a rack mount assembly including mounting flanges in a rack system including opposing column flanges, the method comprising:

positioning the rack mount assembly to span the opposing column flanges of the rack system, including contacting the opposing column flanges with the mounting flanges of the rack mount assembly;

after positioning the rack mount assembly to span the opposing column flanges, sliding the rack mount assembly relative to the opposing column flanges, including contacting the opposing column flanges with alignment protrusions formed on the mounting flanges of the rack mount assembly; and

after sliding the rack mount assembly relative to the opposing column flanges, engaging flange apertures of the opposing column flanges with the alignment protrusions.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein positioning the rack mount assembly to span the opposing column flanges includes adjusting a length of the rack mount assembly between the mounting flanges.

40. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein sliding the rack mount assembly relative to the opposing column flanges includes sliding the alignment protrusions along a surface of the opposing column flanges.

41. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein sliding the rack mount assembly relative to the opposing column flanges includes sliding the alignment protrusions in a direction substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the opposing column flanges.